

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A facsimile apparatus comprising:
 - a) a modem for modulating ~~the~~ data to be transmitted through a communication line and demodulating ~~the~~ received data;
 - b) a scanner for reading an original image;
 - c) a memory card input and output unit for writing data into a memory card and reading data out of the memory card, the memory card being loaded in said memory card input and output unit;
 - d) a first converter ~~converting means~~ for converting data of YCbCr format being read out from the memory card into data of RGB format; and
 - e) a second converter ~~converting means~~ for converting data of RGB format being read out by the scanner and data of RGB format being converted by said first converter ~~converting means~~ into image data of $L^*a^*b^*$ format used in the facsimile apparatus.
2. (Currently amended) A facsimile apparatus comprising:
 - a) a modem for modulating ~~[[a]]~~ data to be transmitted through a communication line and demodulating ~~[[a]]~~ received data;
 - b) a scanner for reading an original image;
 - c) a memory card input and output unit for writing data into a memory card and reading data out of the memory card, the memory card being loaded in said memory card input and output unit;

d) a data conversion management unit ~~means~~ for judging a type of image data receivable in a destination side facsimile apparatus, the type of receivable image data being either color image or monochromatic image;

e) a first converter ~~converting means~~ for converting data of YCbCr format being read out from the memory card into data of RGB format;

f) a second converter ~~converting means~~ for converting data of RGB format being read out by the scanner and data of RGB format being converted by said first converter ~~converting means~~ into data of L*a*b* format used in the facsimile apparatus; and

g) a monochromatic format converter ~~converting means~~ for converting data of L*a*b* format into data of monochromatic format,

wherein when [[if]] the type of the receivable image data is color image, the facsimile apparatus transmits data of L*a*b* format to the destination side facsimile apparatus, and when [[if]] the type of receivable image data is monochromatic image, the facsimile apparatus transmits data of monochromatic format to the destination side facsimile apparatus.

3. (Currently amended) A facsimile apparatus comprising:

a) a modem for modulating a data to be transmitted through a communication line and demodulating a received data;

b) a memory card input and output unit for writing data into a memory card and reading data out of the memory card, the memory card being loaded in said memory card input and output unit;

c) a data conversion management unit ~~means~~ for judging a type of image data receivable in a destination side facsimile apparatus; and

d) a data format converter ~~converting means~~ for converting a color image data into a data format for color facsimile transmission and reception and converting the converted color image data into a data format for monochromatic facsimile transmission when ~~[[if]]~~ the image data receivable at the destination side is monochromatic image data.

4. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 3, wherein said data format converter ~~converting means~~ comprises:

1) first converter ~~converting means~~ for converting the data of YCbCr format being read out from the memory card into data of RGB format;

2) second converter ~~converting means~~ for converting the data of RGB format being converted by the first converter ~~converting means~~ into data of $L^*a^*b^*$ format; and

3) monochromatic format converter ~~converting means~~ for converting the data of $L^*a^*b^*$ format being converted by the second converter ~~converting means~~ into data of monochromatic MH format.

5. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 2,
wherein said monochromatic format converter ~~converting means~~ includes L^* component extractor and MH converter ~~converting means~~, and said L^* component extractor extracts L^* component and converts into binary data by performing gamma correction, and said MH converter ~~converting means~~ converts the binary data into MH format data.

6. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 4,
wherein said monochromatic format converter ~~converting means~~ includes L^* component extractor and MH converter ~~converting means~~, and said L^* component extractor extracts L^* component and converts into binary data by performing gamma correction, and said MH converter ~~converting means~~ converts the binary data into MH format data.

7. (Currently amended) A facsimile apparatus comprising:

a) a modem for modulating ~~[[the]]~~ data to be transmitted through a communication line and demodulating ~~[[the]]~~ received data;

b) a memory card input and output unit for writing data into a memory card and reading data out of the memory card, the memory card being loaded in said memory card input and output unit;

c) a data storage unit for storing data being transmitted or received;

d) data conversion management unit ~~means~~ for judging a ~~a~~ ~~[[the]]~~ type of image data receivable in a destination side facsimile apparatus; and

e) data format converter ~~converting-means~~ for converting a ~~a~~ ~~[[the]]~~ format of image data being transmitted or received,

wherein said data format converter ~~converting-means~~ encodes ~~[[the]]~~ a color image data into L*a*b* format for color facsimile transmission and reception, and further issues by converting into a ~~a~~ ~~[[the]]~~ MH data format by the monochromatic format converter ~~converting-means~~, when ~~[[if]]~~ the type of image data judged by the data conversion management unit ~~means~~ at the time of transmission is monochromatic image data,

issues the received MH format data as it is, or issues by converting into data of specified format, when ~~[[if]]~~ the type of image data judged by the data conversion management unit ~~means~~ at the time of reception is monochromatic image data, or

converts the received data into data of RGB format, and further issues by converting the data of RGB format into data of YCbCr format, when ~~[[if]]~~ the type of image data judged by the data conversion management unit ~~means~~ at the time of reception is color image data.

8. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a scanner for reading the original image, wherein said data format converter ~~converting means~~ includes:

1) first converter ~~converting means~~ for converting from YCbCr format into data of RGB format;

2) second converter ~~converting means~~ for converting from RGB format into data of L*a*b* format;

3) monochromatic format converter ~~converting means~~ for converting from L*a*b* format into data of monochromatic MH format;

4) third converter ~~converting means~~ for converting from L*a*b* format into data of RGB format;

5) fourth converter ~~converting means~~ for converting from RGB format into data of YCbCr format; and

6) monochromatic compression format converter ~~converting means~~ for issuing the received MH format data without conversion, or converting into specified format and issuing in converted data format.

9. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 7, wherein said monochromatic format converter ~~converting means~~ comprises L* component extractor and MH converter ~~converting means~~, and, when obtaining a monochromatic format, the L* component extractor extracts L* component and converts into binary data by performing gamma correction, and the MH converter ~~converting means~~ converts the binary data into MH format data.

10. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 8, wherein said monochromatic format converter ~~converting means~~ comprises L* component extractor and MH converter ~~converting means~~, and, when obtaining a monochromatic format, the L* component

extractor extracts L* component and converts into binary data by performing gamma correction, and the MH converter ~~converting means~~ converts the binary data into MH format data.

11. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 7, wherein a the content of the memory card loaded in the memory card input and output unit is transferred to the data storage unit, and converted in the format converter ~~converting means~~ and transmitted.

12. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 8, wherein a the content of the memory card loaded in the memory card input and output unit is transferred to the data storage unit, and converted in the format converter ~~converting means~~ and transmitted.

13. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 7, wherein the data to be transmitted after conversion in the format converter ~~converting means~~ is stored in the data storage unit.

14. (Currently amended) The facsimile apparatus of claim 8, wherein the data to be transmitted after conversion in the format converter ~~converting means~~ is stored in the data storage unit.

15. (Previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein the memory card is a memory card with copyright protection function.

16. (Previously presented) A facsimile apparatus comprising:

a modulator for modulating a data to be transmitted through a communication line;

a scanner for reading an original image;

a recording medium input and output unit for writing data into a recording medium and reading data out of the recording medium, the recording medium being loaded in said recording medium input and output unit;

a first converter that converts color image data of a first format being read out from the recording medium into color image data of a second format; and

a second converter that converts color image data of the second format into color image data of a third format.

17. (Currently amended) A facsimile apparatus comprising:

a modulator for modulating a data to be transmitted through a communication line;

a scanner for reading an original image;

a recording medium input and output unit for writing data into a recording medium and reading data out of the recording medium, the recording medium being loaded in said recording medium input and output unit;

a data conversion management unit that determines whether a destination side facsimile apparatus is capable of receiving only color image or only monochromatic image;

a first converter that converts color image data of a first format being read out from the recording medium into color image data of a second format;

a second converter that converts color image data of the second format into color image data of a third format;

a monochromatic format converter that converts color image data of the third format into data of a monochromatic format,

wherein when [[if]] the data conversion management unit determines that the destination side facsimile apparatus is capable of receiving only color image, the facsimile apparatus transmits color image data of the third format to the destination side facsimile apparatus, and

when [[if]] the data conversion management unit determines that the destination side facsimile apparatus is capable of receiving only monochromatic image, the facsimile apparatus transmits data of the monochromatic format to the destination side facsimile apparatus.

18. (Currently amended) A facsimile apparatus comprising:

a modulator for modulating a data to be transmitted through a communication line;

a recording medium input and output unit for writing data into a recording medium and reading data out of the recording medium, the recording medium being loaded in said recording medium input and output unit;

a data conversion management unit that determines whether a destination side facsimile apparatus is capable of receiving only color image or only monochromatic image; and

a data format converter that converts the color image data stored in the recording medium into a data format for color facsimile transmission, and converts a data format for color facsimile transmission into a data format for monochromatic facsimile transmission when [[if]] the destination side facsimile apparatus is capable of receiving only monochromatic image data.

19. (Previously presented) A method of transmitting color image data in a facsimile apparatus comprising the steps of:

loading color image data of a first format from a recording medium;

converting the color image data of the first format into color image data of a second format;

converting the color image data of the second format into color image data of a third format; and

transmitting the color image of the third format via a communication line.

20. (Previously presented) A method of transmitting color image data in a facsimile apparatus comprising the steps of:

loading color image data of a first format from a recording medium;

converting the color image data of the first format into color image data of a second format;

converting the color image data of the second format into color image data of a third format;

converting the color image data of the third format into monochromatic image data; and

transmitting the monochromatic image data via a communication line.

21. (Currently amended) A method of transmitting color image data in a facsimile apparatus comprising the steps of:

determining whether a destination side facsimile apparatus is capable of receiving only color image data or only monochromatic image data;

loading color image data of a first format from a recording medium;

converting the color image data of the first format into color image data of a second format;

converting the color image data of the second format into color image data of a third format;

converting the color image data of the third format into monochromatic image data when [[if]] the destination side facsimile apparatus can receive only monochromatic data according to the step of determination; and

transmitting the monochromatic image data or the color image data of the third format via a communication line in response to the step of determination.

22. (Previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 16, wherein the first format is YCbCr, the second format is RGB and the third format is $L^*a^*b^*$.

23. (Previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 17, wherein the first format is YCbCr, the second format is RGB and the third format is $L^*a^*b^*$.

24. (Previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 18, wherein the first format is YCbCr, the second format is RGB and the third format is $L^*a^*b^*$.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the first format is YCbCr, the second format is RGB and the third format is $L^*a^*b^*$.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the first format is YCbCr, the second format is RGB and the third format is $L^*a^*b^*$.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the first format is YCbCr, the second format is RGB and the third format is $L^*a^*b^*$.

28. (Previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 16, wherein the recording medium is a memory card.

29. (Previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 17, wherein the recording medium is a memory card.

30. (Previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 18, wherein the recording medium is a memory card.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the recording medium is a memory card.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the recording medium is a memory card.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the recording medium is a memory card.